

WEATHER
Snow flurries and decidedly colder to-day, with severe cold wave and strong northwest gales. Tomorrow fair, with rising temperature in the afternoon.
Full Report on Page 8

VOL. LXXVI No. 25,649

CITY BRIDGES GUARDED BY NAVAL MILITIA

Details Patrol the East River—Machine Guns on Piers

WATER SUPPLY SYSTEM WATCHED
Raids by Cranks Are Feared—Secret Squads Protect Subway

New York City is prepared against the possibility of internal disturbances. By nightfall yesterday every vital spot within the city was under guard. Two thousand Naval Militiamen, detachments from two Guard regiments, a thousand police on emergency duty and two thousand employees of the Public Service Commission watched bridges, aqueducts, reservoirs and subways.

Bluejackets of the Naval Militia held the bridges. Each of the four great spans which link Manhattan with Brooklyn and Queens bore a guard of ninety men. Their bayonets forced every automobile to stop and submit to search and encouraged those who tramped across to move briskly and keep moving. Cars were forbidden to stop on their run from shore to shore.

Searchlights Play on River
Besides the men who mounted guard high up above the water, others watched the bridges from the shore and the bosom of the East River. Searchlights and big arc lamps flooded the foundations and buttresses with a glaring white light, in which sentinels stood on watch, rifle in hand.

Dowry by the shores over which the bridges towered were more searchlights and more men grouped about quick-firers and machine guns that stuck their noses out over the edges of the piers as a warning for all craft to keep away.

Five tugs also cruised up and down the river all night long. Each of these boats had three men, armed with rifles to enforce the eternal warning, "Keep away from the bridges."

U. S. Sailors on Guard
On the mighty span of the Hell Gate railway bridge, which leaps from the Bronx to Astoria, a company of sailors from the battleship New Jersey mounted guard.

From the Ashokan reservoir down into the heart of the city men are watching over New York's water supply. In the Hudson River counties a detachment of the Infantry are on duty. Six patrolmen are guarding the underground valve station in Van Cortlandt Park. A hundred and fifty men are patrolling the Jerome Park and Williamsburg reservoirs.

In the city itself a thousand extra patrolmen are held at the stations, ready to respond to any alarm. Acting Commissioner Leon M. Gendley said he did not anticipate any organized attack upon public utilities. An armored car and several machine gun motorcyclists have been called into service to act as escorts.

The order issued Saturday night affected only the 1st and 2d battalions of Naval Militia in this city and two regiments of up-state infantry.

Governor Whitman said yesterday that his present purpose was to use the National Guard merely as a protection against the possibility of cranks. He said he did not anticipate any organized attack upon public utilities. An armored car and several machine gun motorcyclists have been called into service to act as escorts.

From the small details on duty at each army, the 1st and 10th Infantry are the only organizations in the state's army that have been put to work. The detachment of the 10th are on guard in the Hudson River counties. The 1st is protecting public utilities in the centre of the state.

Naval Militia Patrols Bridges and East River
Travelers to and from Brooklyn by all of the East River bridges were guarded by naval militiamen stationed at both ends of the great spans yesterday; automobiles were searched for hidden bombs; trolley cars were kept moving until they had completed the bridge run, and loitering pedestrians were hurried on their way. Bayonets fixed to each gun obviated all opposition to patrol duty.

All day crews of electricians, under the direction of David F. Atkins, chief engineer of the Department of Water Supply, Gas and Electricity, installed searchlights and additional arc lights under the arches of the bridges and around the stone piers as a precautionary measure against any attempts to destroy them after nightfall.

Machine guns and three-pounders were stationed under the bridges along the waterfront to keep boats from approaching near the bridge anchorages and piers.

At the office of Chief Police Inspector Max F. Schmittberger it was said that the bridges came under the jurisdiction of the War Department, and for that reason the naval militia had been called on to guard them.

Ninety on Each Span
Lieutenant F. R. Lockey, with ninety men, is in command of the Manhattan Bridge, and Lieutenant Commander A.

THE DIFFICULTY OF HAVING ONLY ONE SHIRT, AND THAT IN THE WASH, WHEN COMPANY COMES



ST. LOUIS MAY SAIL TO-DAY TEUTON CREWS KEPT ON SHIPS TO DEFY BERLIN

Franklin Says Departure for Liverpool Is Still "Up in the Air"

The American liner St. Louis may sail for Liverpool to-day, ignoring the rules and regulations laid down by Germany as to when and how and where the ships of the United States shall sail the high seas. Dispatches from Washington asserted that she would sail, that she would not be conveyed and that she would carry no guns or other defence except the Stars and Stripes at her stern.

P. A. S. Franklin, president of the International Mercantile Marine Company, declared, however, upon his return yesterday from Washington, where he consulted with Secretary Lansing of the State Department and Postmaster General Burleson, that it had not been decided whether the vessel should put out.

"The question is still up in the air," he said. "There has been no decision as to whether sailing dates will be postponed, cancelled, or allowed to stand."

One report had it that not only would the St. Louis sail as scheduled, but that she would sail for Liverpool, as has been customary since the port of Southampton was closed to merchant shipping, regardless of the direction of Germany that such American ships as might be permitted to visit England should use the port of Falmouth.

Up to late last night no effort had been made to put the liner in the painted suit of stripes ordained by imperial decree as the badge of safety for American ships.

No Escort by Warships
It was also rumored that the St. Louis would wait for a warship escort. Washington dispatches asserted that no escort would be provided, although plans to protect American vessels were under consideration. It was stated that the St. Louis had the permission of the State Department to sail, but that if she did so it would not be upon the advice of the State Department.

Mr. Franklin was assured, it was said, that the policy of the State Department as to the departure of American vessels had not changed in the least because of the German war zone decree, but that the department could not take the responsibility of advising that a vessel sail. That risk, the department believes, is rightly a private one.

Despite the conflicting and disquieting rumors, it was said that the St. Louis, and that the number might be increased because of the delay in sailing.

French Liner Sails
The French liner Rochambeau, laden to capacity with a costly cargo of munitions, left port for Bordeaux yesterday at 4 p. m., with sixty-eight cabin and fifty-three stowage passengers, among them being twenty-five Americans. She had a list of ninety cabin passengers, but since February 1 there were twenty-two cancellations.

Little or no demonstration attended her departure. No one except ticket holders, employees of the line and men from the neutrality squad of the Customs were permitted on the pier. She was breasted out about fifty feet from the stringpiece, the gap being

U.S. Asks All Neutrals to Unite; Berlin Frees American Sailors; No Official News of the Break

Dispatches Indicate the Berlin Public Is Ignorant of Break

PLAN TO LIGHTEN BLOCKADE HINTED

Washington Is Surprised That Official Notice Is Not Acknowledged

Berlin, Feb. 4 (via London, Feb. 5).—Germany to-day acceded to the American demands for the release of the seventy-two Americans taken from ships sunk by the raider in the Atlantic and brought to a German port aboard the steamer Yarrowdale.

Berlin, Feb. 4 (by wireless to Sayville).—"Press dispatches have reached Berlin, according to which diplomatic relations between Germany and the United States have been broken off," says the Overseas News Agency. "No official confirmation has been received."

"In case the news is correct," adds the agency, "the general feeling in Germany is regret that the American President gave to the German note an interpretation which was not intended by Germany."

"The German measures are not intended to damage neutrals, but were caused by the necessity of defending Germany against hostile measures which are contrary to international law, Germany's enemies, therefore, being charged with the whole responsibility."

Washington, Feb. 4.—Great surprise exists here over the fact that up to tonight neither press reports nor official dispatches have indicated that Ambassador Gerard has asked for his passports. His instructions were sent both by cable and wireless, and there is no disposition to doubt that he has received them and acted accordingly. It is assumed that the most rigid censorship is being maintained in Germany.

Received with Calm
Stockholm, Feb. 4 (via London).—Private advices from Berlin say the announcement of the rupture of relations between the United States and Germany was received with comparative calm by the people.

"Judging by the news received from the United States, the feeling there against the Germans is incomparably more bitter than the feeling here against Americans," says a dispatch from Berlin.

London, Feb. 4.—Reuter's Amsterdam correspondent says that, while Berlin is preserving silence in regard to the rupture of relations between Germany and the United States, the German government has issued the following statement:

"It is stated that negotiations are afoot between the authorities interested concerning how Germany by removing certain transport difficulties can take into account the requirements of some neutral states in relation to essential raw materials, especially coal and iron."

The two above messages from Berlin, one by cable via London and the other by wireless to Sayville, are the first that have been received from Germany since the break in diplomatic relations. Although unrelated in matter, it is possible that they are related politically.

The one by cable via London tells that the German Foreign Office has released the seventy-two Americans captured by a German commerce raider. The demand for their release was made by the American government several days before the receipt of the German note of January 21, announcing a revival of unrestricted submarine warfare.

Thus now, subsequently to the break in diplomatic relations, the German government yields to a demand that had been made before.

Strange Procedure
That is strange. This message apparently originated in Berlin at 9 o'clock Sunday night. It reached London about 1 o'clock this (Monday) morning.

The wireless message from Berlin was received at Sayville at 6:53 p. m. Sunday, nearly twenty-nine hours after Ambassador Bernstorff had received his passports from the State Department at Washington. It was the first word direct from Germany since diplomatic relations were severed, and is strangely oblique.

The Overseas News Agency is an

NEUTRALS WAIT FOR U. S. TO ENTER WAR

(By Cable to The Tribune)
London, Feb. 4.—Almost the sole topic of conversation here to-day is the possible effect that the action of the United States will have on the European neutrals. The turning point of the war has come, London believes, and quick action is expected.

At the same time, definite steps by the European neutrals are hardly likely until the United States formally declares war. To small neutral nations, hemmed in by the belligerents, such a step would mean serious and immediate consequences, and they must be fully prepared to fight without delay before they make any move.

authorized German organization, besides which, of course, all news leaving Germany is censored at the German Foreign Office. Therefore, this Berlin news item, the first received after the break in our relations, may be regarded in the light of a semi-official expression, the effect of which was calculated. As such it deserves close attention.

Germany's View of Break
"Press dispatches have reached Berlin," says the Overseas News Agency, "according to which diplomatic relations between Germany and the United States have been broken off. No official confirmation has been received."

"Press dispatches" are not printed in Germany until the Foreign Office permits them to appear, and it is extremely unlikely that news of a break with the United States, of which there was "no official confirmation," would be passed by the government censor for newspaper publication.

With the wireless working as usual and in view of the extreme improbability that the exchange of state messages by cable in so grave a matter would be obstructed or delayed, it is inconceivable that on Sunday evening the German government was officially unaware that the American Ambassador had been recalled or that on Saturday at 2 p. m. the German Ambassador at Washington had received his passports. The inference is that as late as Sunday evening the German Foreign Office was still withholding the startling news from the German people. Why?

Perhaps because it was fearful of the effect.

Persons who were in Germany when Rumania declared war upon the Central Powers have told how the heart dropped out of the German people at hearing that news. That they would be moved more by the news that the United States had broken off relations with Germany and dismissed her ambassador can hardly be doubted.

"The general feeling in Germany," adds the Overseas News Agency, "is that the American President gave to the German note an interpretation which was not intended by Germany." This refers to the note of January 31, in which the pledge not to practise "unlimited" submarine warfare was withdrawn. But if the news of the break in diplomatic relations has not been published, there can be no "general feeling in Germany," so one is obliged to suppose that this is something the German Foreign Office wishes to say for effect in the United States. The rest of the message is in the familiar key of apology to neutrals. Germany is responsible for nothing, her enemies are "charged with the whole responsibility."

May Ameliorate Condition
Two other messages were received last night from Berlin indirectly. That by way of London from Reuter's Amsterdam correspondent, quoting an official statement by the German government on the subject of ameliorating the condition of neutrals, appears to have no bearing on the relations between the United States and Germany.

In its statement, as quoted by this correspondent, the German government refers to raw material, especially "coal and iron." There is no traffic between this country and Germany in these commodities.

The message from Stockholm, via London, refers to "private advices" from Germany. These may have been inspired.

Wilson, in Note, Appeals for United Action in Putting Moral Pressure on Germany

PRESIDENT STILL CLINGS TO LAST HOPE OF PEACE

Relieved by News That Housatonic Was Sunk Legally—Immunity Period for American Ships Ends To-day

By STEVENSON H. EVANS

Washington, Feb. 4.—The United States and the German Empire are now in the twilight zone preceding the total darkness of war. How great is the desire of the American people to keep out of war is reflected in the attitude of the Administration and Congress. All cling to the last lingering hope that Germany doesn't mean it.

Two striking features of the day vividly expressed that hope. These were:

1. An appeal by this government to all neutral governments to follow the example of the United States in breaking off diplomatic relations with the German Empire. This, the American government pointed out, might make for peace. The full moral force of the neutral world would be exerted against the desperate policy of Germany.

2. The tremendous relief apparent at the White House, State, War and Navy departments and in Congress when the word came that it had been definitely established that the sinking of the American ship Housatonic by a German submarine did not constitute the over-act which would mean war.

Note Sent to Neutrals

The President's invitation to neutrals to follow his action was contained in instructions to American diplomats to announce the break with Germany to the governments to which they are accredited. It was contained in the following note:

You will immediately notify the government to which you are accredited that the United States, because of the German government's recent announcement of its intention to renew unrestricted submarine warfare, has no choice but to follow the course laid down in its note of April 18, 1916 (the Sussex note).

It has, therefore, recalled the American Ambassador to Berlin and has delivered passports to the German Ambassador to the United States.

Say, also, that the President is reluctant to believe Germany actually will carry out her threat against neutral commerce, but if it be done the President will ask Congress to authorize use of the national power to protect American citizens engaged in their peaceful and lawful errands on the seas.

The course taken is, in the President's view, entirely in conformity with the principles he enunciated in his address to the Senate January 12. (The address proposing a world league for peace.) He believes it will make for the peace of the world if other neutral powers can find it possible to take similar action.

Report fully and immediately on the reception of this announcement and upon the suggestion as to similar action.

Doubt Neutrals Will Heed

As a matter of fact, the appeal to the neutrals means nothing. It is empty of possible effect. No one in this government expects that Holland, Denmark, Sweden, or Norway will venture, practically defenceless, against the heavy military hand of Germany, to invite the disaster which overtook Belgium. Possibly there will come support from the South American countries. But any action on the part of the United States looking toward peace was hailed with satisfaction here.

As to the relief apparent because the Housatonic sinking does not constitute the dreaded overt act, it is pure emotion, not reason at all, which leads men here to pin any hope on that. The Housatonic, it appears, was carrying contraband, was stopped on the high seas by a German submarine, which exercised the right of visit and search. Arrangements for the safety of the crew were made and the vessel was sunk.

All was in accord with the German pledges made in the Sussex note. But, according to the terms of Germany's latest declaration of frightfulness, neutral ships were not to be sunk until after February 5. It would have been a monstrous thing even from the German point of view to have sunk the Housatonic without warning.

It was not surprising that the members of Congress and the officials of the Administration, keyed to a high pitch by the President's address yesterday and set for the blow of a sea disaster, should be relieved at the Housatonic outcome. But men here with the best information and most complete knowledge of the German government and conditions in Berlin—men with the knowledge of Count von Bernstorff, for ex-